

Air Pouch PRIORITY		OFFICIAL USE ONLY (Security Classification)	DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH		771 DESP. NO.	611.98/ 4-661
FROM :	Amembassy DJAKARTA	April 6, 1961	
TO :	THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.	APR 10 1961	
REF :			

2 For Dept.	ACTION FE-4	DEPT. IN	PMR 2 P.3 4/8-1 INR 7 ID.4
Use Only	REC'D 4-18	OTHER O	CLR 10 USIA 10 NSC 2

SUBJECT: Cabinet Minister's Impressions of the U.S., Japan, and Khrushchev

Social Welfare Minister Muljadi Djojomartono conveyed to the left-wing daily Pantjajawarta last fall some of the rather naive impressions of the world he gained during his trip with Sukarno to the last UN General Assembly.

Displaying the tendency to self-righteousness common to many Asian politicians, Muljadi pronounced the morals of Indonesian and Eastern women in general, except Japan, superior to others and dubbed the high U.S. living standard as too materialistic. Uncharacteristic of Indonesian tolerance, he included in his interview an uncomplimentary word about Jewish people in the United States.

The interview was not entirely unfriendly to the United States, and some of its criticisms may derive from leftist editing. Muljadi is a former Masjumi member who still maintains ties with the Muhammadiyah, the Masjumi-dominated Islamic social organization. He is not considered a strong member of the cabinet, and enjoys comparatively little prominence in the press and local politics. Sukarno is said to have made him a Minister in the hope of splitting the Muhammadiyah; if so, the strategy has not yet succeeded.

It is regretted that shortage of personnel has delayed this report.

For the Ambassador:

Roland H. Bushner
 Rolland H. Bushner
 Counselor of Embassy for Political Affairs

Enclosure

Translation of Muljadi interview

1021 46K 18 WM 10 55

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 REPORTER

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Encl. No. 1
Desp. No. 771
From Djakarta

Minister Muljadi's impressions from his UN trip with the President:

WOMEN IN OTHER COUNTRIES ARE TOO EASY TO TAKE ALONG

Indonesian women have better morals.

Social Welfare Minister Muljadi Djojomartono, who accompanied President Sukarno to the UN General Assembly, said that Indonesian women have better morals than women of other countries. This may be due to the traditional heritage of the East, which they still embody. Women in other countries are too free and it is ^{easy} to take them along anywhere (sic). But not so with Indonesian women, for most of them are still tied to their respective traditional customs. Thus, restrictions are still necessary for those who wish to uphold the Eastern civilization.

Different from those the Minister saw in Japan, most of the shop-keepers and restaurant waitresses in America are middle-aged women. Every Saturday, shops are crowded with women because this day is a holiday for the Americans.

During his one-week stay in New York, the Minister never saw a beggar. It may be that begging is forbidden there. However, this does not mean that there are no poor people there. It is said that they live in tunnels and subways and are very wretched. "But unfortunately," the Minister regretted, "I did not have the opportunity to see them."

These poor people, according to Social Department Press Officer Mrs. Anggraeni Mardjana, who interrupted, -- because she had once lived in this land of dollars -- are made up of retired old people, whose pensions are too small, gamblers and drunkards.

Minister Muljadi continued that, unlike the people of Indonesia, the American people are always in a hurry. It may be because of the cold weather, and because they must make haste to prepare for winter. The same thing with the traffic; drivers push on as fast as they can. This is very much unlike the traffic in Rome, where drivers are always very careful; as if they have more feeling than the American drivers.

Distinctive differences.

The Jews cause you the most headaches, said the Minister. Once, while the Minister was taking a walk near the UN Headquarters, a Jew offered to take his picture, to which he agreed gladly, believing that his picture would be put in some newspapers as is the case in Indonesia. But the next day the same Jew came to him and asked him to pay \$30 for the photos, which startled him. But he paid \$10 at last. The Jew went away with a triumphant smile.

The living standard in the U.S. is very high and there is a distinctive difference between the life of wealthy people and the poor. Everything is based too much upon material concerns, he concluded.

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Japanese women.

As for the Japanese women, their morals are so bad that they cannot compare with the morals of Indonesian women. In just one restaurant, there are scores of adult women waitresses, when only a few is enough to serve the customers. What are they doing there? Whenever we entered a restaurant or a shop, these girls would automatically say "Dozo-dozo" or "Ohayo gozaimasu" just as if they were machines. When we left they said "Arigato gozaimasu."

Concerning their culture, we fear that it will soon be swallowed up by the American culture; especially because the Japanese women very much like to imitate it. Feudalism, too, is going to be ruined in Japan because owners of the old feudal buildings can no longer afford to finance and maintain them. They are being turned into guest-houses now.

On one occasion, the Minister met with an ex-Dai Nippon soldier, who during the Japanese occupation here was very brutal, but has now changed. He hinted that he would enjoy very much living in Indonesia and expressed his great desire to come to Indonesia as a trader.

Khrushchev is a free-minded person.

Talking about Soviet Premier Khrushchev, the Minister said that he is a free-minded person, who cannot be oppressed. In the UN General Assembly, he (Khrushchev) listened to President Sukarno's speech with wonder.

* * *

Pantjawarta, October 23, 1960

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Info FROM: Amembassy DJAKARTA Date Sent: April 19, 1961
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APR 24 11 07 AM '61
PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

Junior FonDep official in American division, trained in US, who lives among large number university students told reporting officer April 14 he encountering much less difficulty explaining American policy to older students who prior new U.S. administration inclined to believe worst, scoff at US good intentions toward Asia, under-developed nations.

Official said this change especially marked among non-communist students who members left of center student organizations affiliated with political parties such as PNI. He cited recent US positions in UN as very influential on doubting students, who because of these positions much more willing believe "new deal" dawning in US policy on Asia, with more sympathetic approach under Kennedy.

JONES

POL

RL Flanagan
POL: [unclear]:sts
April 17, 1961

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JUL 18 1961

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By [unclear] NARA Date 8/4/00

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From Djakarta

in order to refer to him any politically loaded questions from the press on arrival, but this does not provide a fully satisfactory answer as to the underlying motivation of Ahem in seeking joint travel arrangements). But in addition to domestic political influences may be that exercised by Yugoslavian Ambassador Pavlic, who has courted Ahem extensively in the past two years and who has arranged Ahem's upcoming state visit to Yugoslavia.

On the other hand, there is no present indication that Ahem's personal attitude toward the PKI in Indonesia has changed. He apparently has accepted Sukarno's line that the PKI can be "nationalized" in time, and his favorable interest in Yugoslavia, birthplace of successful Nationalist-Communist experimentation, can be seen as a desire for confirmation that this is possible. Pavlic doubtless has exploited this to the fullest. In a social conversation with the Labor Attaché on April 18, Pavlic referred to Ahem in glowing terms as "my dear friend."

For the Ambassador:

Robert L. Kinney
Robert L. Kinney
Labor Attaché

Dept. please pass AMEREMBASSIES BRUSSELS, NEW DELHI, BELGRADE and CINCPAC
FOR POLAD. Amconsuls MEDAN and SURABAYA.

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From Djakarta

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Date: April 17, 1961

Time: 10:00-11:15 a.m.

Place: Office of the Labor Minister

Participants: Labor Minister Ahem Erningpradja and the Labor Attaché

Subject: Conversation with Labor Minister Ahem Erningpradja on Following Subjects: Forthcoming U.S. Visits of Labor Department Officer Godjali and of Ahem; Ahem's View that U.S. is Losing Undeclared War with Russia; Present Status of OPPI; and Position Regarding Dr. Salmon Tanja's Role in Relation to the Labor Education Center

Minister Ahem said that while he realized that the Leader Grant program for Mr. Godjali, Chief of the Minister's Cabinet of the Labor Department, had been planned to include stop-overs in Manila and Tokyo enroute to the States, he would like this to be changed to provide for travel to the U.S. via Europe. Ahem said that he had been invited by the Yugoslavian Government to visit Belgrade prior to joining President Sukarno's entourage at Cairo in mid-May, and he wished to have Godjali accompany him to Yugoslavia and assist him during his five day visit there.

Ahem said further that he now hoped to be able to visit the United States in response to our long standing invitation in August or September of this year. He said that he expected to coordinate his travel with that of Supreme Advisory Council Vice-Chairman Ruslan Abdulgani, who also anticipates visiting the U.S. at that time.

When queried on this point, he said that he quite understood that his program would be entirely separate from that of Ruslan but that he had arranged this tentatively with Ruslan because there are "political advantages" in this.

He indicated that since he will be accompanying President Sukarno to the Soviet Union after leaving Cairo in May, the President may be inclined to approve his U.S. travel later this year. He repeated an earlier statement that Sukarno had refused to allow him to accept our invitation in 1960 due to the fact that he had not planned a visit to the USSR. The President felt at the time that in view of the PKI-SOBSI attacks on Ahem in mid-1961 his visit to the U.S. at that time would make his political position at home almost untenable. Ahem expressed the belief that Sukarno took this position because the President "liked" him and wanted to protect him from the PKI.

Ahem then commented admiringly on the recent news that the Soviets have successfully put a man into space. He said this now proves that America is "far behind" in technological achievement. He said that the Russian achievements

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From Djakarta

tend to prove that the United States in its preoccupation with democracy, freedom of the press, freedom of political parties, and freedom to criticize our own and other leaders is losing its position of world leadership and its capacity to negotiate with the Communists from a position of equivalent strength. To be sure, he said, Americans are satisfied with their wealth and their freedoms and their system of democracy. However, he asked, what do they really mean? For instance, while Americans pride themselves on the fact that all citizens have the opportunity to go to school, what about our colleges and universities, which deny more than a high school education to "your masses" because the higher educational institutions are only for the "sons of the rich men."

The reporting officer took strong exception to this. He pointed out that many thousands of the children of our "masses" win scholarships to colleges and universities each year and that the "sons of the rich" have to compete with them on the basis of academic merit to qualify for acceptance by our higher institutions. Our problem is not so much a problem of financing college for those best qualified but of finding room within our overtaxed institutions for the vastly increasing numbers of applicants.

As for the implication that the democratic system cannot compete in the present world against Russian totalitarianism, the reporting officer said that Americans feel no compulsion for changing their concepts of liberty because of sputniks or men in space, however glamorous such achievements may seem. He suggested that Ahem visit the USSR and the United States and see for himself the facts of comparative technological progress and human welfare. He also reminded the Minister that in the late 1930's there was much boasting by Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy about the scientific achievements and economic development allegedly brought about by totalitarian efficiency. In Italy the trains were said to run on time, and in Germany a mighty Luftwaffe was building. Yet in the 1940's, the myth of totalitarian efficiency and scientific superiority was exposed.

Ahem countered by saying that America was then in an acknowledged state of war, whereas today America is involved in another war quite as real but not actually acknowledged in the sense of mobilization of total resources. The Soviets, he implied, are so mobilized and thus are "winning."

He expressed urgent hope that Sukarno's meeting with President Kennedy would lead to a much improved understanding and relationship between our two Governments, a sentiment with which the reporting officer wholeheartedly agreed.

Ahem then expressed the view that the PKI is much troubled by current developments in Indonesia. When asked what is concerning the PKI about its prospects, Ahem alluded to the National Front as being a mechanism which could hamstring the PKI's freedom to operate. He declined to elaborate.

On the subject of OPPI, Ahem confirmed the Embassy's information that the non-Communist trade unions are being encouraged to establish a voluntary confederation without SOBSI participation. He said that he advised their leaders that he could not, however, take an open role in sponsoring such a

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development because it would "cause trouble" for him in the ILO. (By this he apparently meant that if he, as Labor Minister, were named as a prominent officer or official sponsor of such an organization the ILO could charge Indonesia with violation of free trade union rights.) He said that their success, as he had warned them in discussions on the subject, would depend upon whether they put aside self-interest in its formation. "If they approach this asking: 'What will you do for me if I join?' it will fail," Ahem said.

Ahem raised the subject of the ICA-aided Labor Education Center sponsored by the Labor Department, expressed satisfaction with current progress, and said that he had been wondering when the commodities specified in the ICA assistance project would be forthcoming. The reporting officer referred him to Mr. Park, the USOM Labor Technical Officer. He expressed pleasure, however, that the Minister appeared more satisfied with the LEC's progress than had been the case previously. He said that he had heard that Dr. Tanja of the KBKI had joined the LEC staff full-time recently and expressed the view that this would tend to strengthen the LEC's services.

Ahem took sharp exception to this. He said that it was not true that Tanja was working as a member of the LEC staff. He said, in effect, that Dr. Tanja had nothing to do officially with the LEC and that anything to do with the LEC should be discussed with Mr. Sjaharuddin, the LEC director, and not Tanja.

The reporting officer interrupted to say that Dr. Tanja had not recently discussed LEC affairs with him.

The Minister stated emphatically: "Tanja has no authority to discuss anything about the Labor Education Center. He occasionally helps me out and I have been helping him out to come to Djakarta but he does not represent the Labor Education Center."

Ahem denied that there had been a rift in the KBKI. "I am running the KBKI and no one else. I do not go to the office but they (the officers) come to me." He said that the KBKI follows his policy and his only. (This was an oblique reference to A. M. Datuk, KBKI Secretary General, who reportedly is under fire for making statements in the name of KBKI which Ahem and other officers had not cleared.)

He confirmed that Sukarno last month called in Datuk and Moh. Munir, SOBSI chairman, to advise him on establishing a single GOI-blessed trade union or confederation, but he insisted that they were called as "individuals" and not as representatives of KBKI or SOBSI. He said that they had not agreed upon a plan for the President at that time and that so far as he is aware no such plan has been agreed upon to date.

Seen in draft by Mr. E. Park, USOM/LA

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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH					
FROM :	AmConsulate, Surabaya, Indonesia		76	DESP. NO.	
TO :	THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON		April 20, 1961	DATE	
REF :					
67 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION FE-4 REC'D 5/3	DEPT. IN F O	Rm R. 2. 110.7 P.3 CU-5 ID-4 REP-1 CIA-10 USIA-10 HEA-5 file		

SUBJECT: Evidence of Effectiveness in re Indonesian Couple Recently Married;
Bride Had Private Scholarship Western College and Groom, ICA Grant
University of Texas.

The purpose of this despatch is to present certain favorable aspects of American-Indonesian relations that developed, on an individual basis, following the award to an Indonesian girl of a private scholarship by a college in the United States and to a young man of an ICA grant. The girl, before her marriage, was Miss Irmani Sugyarti REKSODIHARDJO, whose father is Technical Advisor and until recently President-Director of N.V. Pabrik Semen Gresik, Mr. SARIMIN Reksodihardjo. The young man is Mr. BISWOJO Hardjodipuro.

Irmani's scholarship (Western College, Oxford, Ohio) covered tuition, board and tuition but since she had no other means of support in the United States, the American Technical Advisor to the Gresik Cement Plant, Mr. C. MacArthur CARMAN, offered (1) to advance dollars to her for the purpose and (2) to guarantee her father's paying her passage to the U.S. in rupiahs. Because of currency restrictions, Mr. Sarimin couldn't possibly contribute in dollars to his daughter's support.

At the end of the two years that she was at Western College, Irmani received her Bachelor's degree and returned to Indonesia in the fall of 1960. She had earned enough money working at odd jobs to pay her return passage but, at the last minute, it was not necessary for her to use this money because she applied for and received free passage on the hospital ship S.S. Hope, as a teacher of Indonesian to doctors and nurses on board.

April 12, 1961, Irmani was married to Mr. Siswojo who, with an ICA grant, received his Master's degree in Modern Languages at the University of Texas, Austin, Texas. The marriage was arranged by the two families but the principal participants were acquainted with each other ahead of time. In fact, since they were in the U.S. at the same time, Irmani visited with mutual friends in Austin where her fiance was studying.

The Javanese wedding ceremony of the couple, followed by a reception for 500 people, took place at the Sarimin house located on the premises of "Gresik" in the suburbs of Surabaya. The bride, whose make-up alone took four hours of preparation, received the guests with the groom in a tower of flowers. Both bride and groom were dressed in elegant Javanese wedding clothes and a gamelan (orchestra) of thirty Javanese played appropriate background music with Javanese gongs and cymbals.

RSBlack/sl
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Surabaya

Entertainment that followed the ceremony and accompanied the wedding dinner included Balinese dancing and excerpts from the Wajang Orang plays. Outside the gates of the residence vendors of peanuts and balloons sold their wares to the people who were not invited to the wedding but who later in the evening were able to enter the garden to watch the dancing.

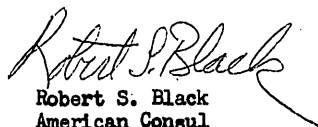
Principal guests were Indonesian military and civil officials, including the Governor of East Java, prominent business and professional people of the area, and the Consular Corps. Also included, however, were "Gresik" employees and their families and the forty Americans who are now living at "Gresik" while the men of the family are engaged in the "Morrison Knudsen Int." construction project for the extension of the cement plant.

The bride and groom will live at Malang in East Java, where they are both teachers of English in the teachers college (Sekolah Guru Atas).

Comment:

Mr. Sarimin, as President-Director of a cement plant (1) that was built by an American construction company with an Eximbank loan to the GOI and (2) that was the recipient of an ICA grant for the training of operations personnel, appears to be genuinely enthusiastic about cooperation between American Government and private organizations on the one hand and their Indonesian counterparts on the other. Therefore, it is not surprising that his daughter should go to the U.S. to school and that upon her return, she should promote good relations between the United States and Indonesia.

Irmami's genuine interest in Americans was evident the day of her marriage, with respect to (1) Mr. Carman, who attended the wedding and continues to take a very personal interest in the bride; (2) personnel of the S.S. Hope, who were invited to the wedding and who, from all reports, would most certainly have been on hand if their ship had not been in the "outer islands"; and (3) Morrison-Knudsen personnel who were invited to the wedding and who attended en masse with families and cameras. Furthermore, it is believed that both the bride and the groom, as teachers of English in a Teachers' Training College with an enrollment of 253, are in a unique position to follow up on their obvious desire to promote American-Indonesian relations.


Robert S. Black
American Consul

cc: AmEmbassy, Djakarta


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By CD NARA Date 8/4/00

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Control: 19372

Rec'd: April 30, 1961
5:20 a.m.

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Info

FROM: Djakarta

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 3097, April 30.

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SENT DEPARTMENT 3097; REPEATED INFORMATION CINCPAC 423.

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

Embassy telegram 3096

Two wireless file reports datelined Washington April 25, reprinted here in DAILY BULLETIN, described announcement re outcome Kennedy-Sukarno talks as joint communique; AP Stringer says his service used same term. Foreign Department "correction" (reference telegram) reflects on credibility daily bulletin and US official announcements, also affords convenient opening for PKI discount substance of communique itself.

Embassy would appreciate information as to proper designation for communique to use in response any queries this subject.

HENDERSON

JVC/14

611.98/4-3061

Correction made
by RM/R

See 7/12/61

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Department of State

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FROM: Djakarta

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 3097, April 30.

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CORRECTION

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Origin: SENT TO: Amembassy, DJAKARTA 1775
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Info: Amembassy, KUALA LUMPUR 584
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CINCPAC
CINCPAC FOR POLAD
USUN NEW YORK 2164

Following based uncleared memorandum of Conversation.

Sukarno discussions with President at White House April 24 conducted in warm and informal atmosphere in which frank and rapid exchange of views took place.

Discussion launched by Sukarno exposition current attitudes and aspirations people of Southeast Asia. Crux of matter, he maintained, is nationalism. People of area, long under colonial rule, longing and fighting for freedom and their greatest need is for understanding and sympathy. He urged that trouble spots such as Laos and Vietnam and Communism in Southeast Asia generally be seen through the "glass of nationalism".

Sukarno reviewed US role in Indonesian independence movement, observing that US, since 1950 has seemed uncertain in relations with Indonesia, unwilling to speak with clear and positive voice. Said that US answers to frequent pleading for support on West New Guinea issue is in terms of friendship with Dutch and relations with NATO. Sukarno said US should not play role of "tight-rope dancer".

Sukarno

Drafted by:

FE:SPA:RSI andquist:js

4-28-61

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by

FE -- John M. Steeves

Clearances:

SPA - Mr. Bell

FE -

S/S - Mr. Egan

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Sukarno took issue with observation Papuans ethnically different from bulk and therefore West New Guinea not logically a part of Indonesia. Indonesian population. Noted presence Negroes and other minorities in US and fact that Indonesia composed many different ethnic groups such as ~~Dyaks~~ ^{Dyaks} who "happy as Indonesians".

Regarding Australia's interest, said Menzies had told him Australia wishes see peaceful settlement and would agree to Dutch-Indonesian solution. Disclaimed any interest East New Guinea.

Stating "we want close relations with The Netherlands", Sukarno recalled that after 1949 transfer of sovereignty Netherlands interests had been permitted retained preferred position in Indonesian economy, that this had been terminated only when no solution to problem of West New Guinea was forthcoming.

In reply question from President Kennedy, Sukarno stated emphatically that Secretary said we instinctively look to wishes of local population in cases such as this. people of West New Guinea would prefer be Indonesian. / Sukarno took position that WNG part of Indonesia, that plebiscite unnecessary since territory historically Indonesian.

Sukarno recognized desirability save "Dutch face" in this matter and commented on shifting trends in popular Dutch public attitudes. He said Indonesia would be willing consider one or two year transitional trusteeship but could not compromise on question of sovereignty.

The Secretary suggested that Dutch and Indonesians might be able discuss subject further but pointed out that pre-determined trusteeship period, a possibly difficult question, might be left to the United Nations. President expressed strong hope Indonesia would not use force and emphasized that calm climate essential to solution

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solution. Stressed problem would be complicated and solution made more difficult by military action.

Sukarno emphasized that solution must be found quickly as he cannot restrain his people indefinitely. President Kennedy made very clear to Sukarno that we much interested in achieving peaceful resolution WNG question.

Sukarno expounded briefly on Indonesia's domestic scene with emphasis on development guided democracy.

President Kennedy stressed we interested in supporting independence of Asian countries regardless of whether or not they neutralist. Secretary emphasized U.S. clearly recognizes need for revolutionary economic-social progress in Asia and that we "peacefully in support" this ~~progress~~ progress. We concerned that Communists exploit these ideals for own purposes.

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Sukarno visit can be regarded as outstanding success in terms establishment rapport between two presidents. Although no definite agreements reached, climate of sympathetic understanding of their problems and points of view made great impression on Indonesians. Ambassador Jones Foreign Minister told/ as he departed Washington that President Sukarno/ had been highly pleased and that he (Subandrio) considered contact the most satisfactory between top U.S. and Indo leadership in many years.

Subandrio summarized results from Indo point of view as follows:

1. Encouraging prospect had emerged of common glossary between U.S. and Indonesia leadership in discussion current and developing problems in Asia such as Laos and Viet-Nam. In this connection ~~there was~~ increasing recognition on Indo side that U.S. and Indonesia were both genuinely interested in pursuit same goals, to wit, progress of people toward improved standards of living and freedom from foreign domination.

FE:SPA:Ambassador Jones:aoa
4/29/61

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

FE John M. Steeves

Clearances:

WE-Mr. Beaudry

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2. Sukarno was convinced as result of talks that although nothing specific had been accomplished re West New Guinea, there was new climate in Washington in which he felt two points clearly emerged: (1) U.S. recognized importance of solving West/^{New Guinea}~~East~~ question and was willing to assist as appropriate toward that end; (2) U.S. had no rpt no objection if West/^{New Guinea}~~East~~ ultimately goes to Indonesia (although he was aware that Dutch insistence on application principle self-determination to West New Guinea caused problem for U.S. in view our historical position this concept), that U.S. interest lay in finding peaceful solution this issue.

During talks U.S. offered to send team top economic experts to Indonesia to study eight year plan and explore ways in which U.S. could be helpful. No rpt no definite arrangement to implement this suggestion was made. Indos appeared interested but made no specific response.

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Under dateline April 29 local news services reported that Foreign Department announced same day it informed by Foreign Minister that statement issued by Sukarno and Kennedy in Washington April 24 "not a joint communique." Statement was only White House communique issued after conclusion of discussions between two Presidents, according Foreign Department spokesman Ilen.

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